

To the Archducal/Imperial/High/Ruling Council and his Most Gracious Imperial Majesty, Alastair  
From the Unified Mission of the Sisters of the Silvery Veil and the Temple of Gunnora:  
The Very Reverend Abbess Sofia of the Abbey of the Sisterhood in Cese Mai  
The Useful Midwife Modia Underhill of “whereverI find myself”

A further report on the Southlands of the Empire --- Eyes of the Council only

Your Gracious and Imperial Majesty:

Firstly the mundane --

1. We continue to see no sign of the Cult of the Ram whatsoever.
2. Being a literate order we have laid out suggested borders to allow for 5 to 7 great holdings, with 5 -10 lesser holdings within each one. I do not know what your majesty's sense of these things is - but if your majesty wishes we will forward the suggested boundaries to you. This does mean that at the least you would need 5 to 7 high nobles (Dukes perhaps?) of which there are 2 possible ones surviving from the old regime and a minimum of 25 lesser nobles (Earls, barons, viscounts, counts and maybe sheriffs) of which approximately 4 survive from the old regime, plus some knights that could be elevated. At the upper end obviously it could be as many as 70.
3. Modia repeats that new seed stock is needed for next year.
4. Food is holding out, and from nowhere a caravan from Seachan delivered significant numbers of cattle and grain. They would take no payment and did threaten any male attempting to approach their persons with instant death, but they said that children should not be malnourished, even if they were male. They then departed the way that they came. This gift will help the farmers in the spring. I think they thought that they brought them for butcher, but so little livestock came from South Kingdoms that this is truly a divine gift.
5. Our position nearest to Skaven land continues to see “traffic” and “business.” Injured, even dying Skaven have shown up in small numbers, requesting healing. We of course have ministered to them, and spoken to them of deities other than theirs, and many of them seem receptive to our words. However,
6. What is more concerning is that some young, child ratlings have shown up, not a stream, but certainly a robust trickle. They are injured, malnourished, and come alone or in twos or threes, or in a few cases small ones carrying even smaller ones - babies - in one horrifying case dead babies that they would not believe were dead. They are aware of our effort with human orphans and request our care piteously. Thus far we have taken them in and even established a bedding space for them. We louse them, feed them, teach them the scriptures and how to clean themselves properly - but - we need guidance. As orders of healers and caregivers we are doing what we would do for anyone, what our orders have done for goblins and orcs, Uruks and even Troll children, but... is it different with Skaven? Should we be putting them down, which is apparently what their own people would do because they are weak, but which we find abhorrent? What is your majesty's direction?